

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please add new Claims 46-47 as shown in the following
Listing of Claims:

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Claim 1. (Original) A basketball backboard and hoop apparatus, comprising:

a basketball backboard and hoop assembly;

a support arm for supporting the basketball backboard and hoop assembly; and

a support element, wherein the support element provides support for the support arm;

wherein the basketball backboard and hoop assembly is longitudinally moved along a horizontal plane or along any angle within 45 degrees of or about a horizontal plane from a first position inside a structure to a second position outside the structure, and further wherein the basketball backboard and hoop assembly is moved to an in-use position.

Claim 2. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 1, wherein the basketball backboard and hoop assembly further comprises a backboard, and further wherein the apparatus further comprises:

a backboard support member, wherein the backboard support member deploys the backboard into an upright position.

Claim 3. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 1, wherein the basketball backboard and hoop assembly further comprises a backboard, and further wherein the apparatus further comprises:

a backboard support member, wherein the backboard support member unfolds the backboard to an in-use position or folds the backboard prior to storage.

Claim 4. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 1, wherein the basketball backboard and hoop assembly comprises a hoop capable of being rotated to an in-use position, wherein the hoop is at least one of rotated in a vertical direction to an in-use position subsequent to the basketball backboard and hoop assembly being moved to at least one of the second position and the in-use position and rotated in a horizontal direction to an in-use position subsequent to the basketball backboard and hoop assembly being moved to at least one of the second position and the in-use position.

Claim 5. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 1, further comprising:

an electric motor for automatically deploying the basketball backboard and hoop assembly to the in-use position or for automatically returning the basketball backboard and hoop assembly to the non-use position.

Claim 6. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 5, further comprising:

a computer for controlling the electric motor; and
a shock sensor attached to at least one of the apparatus, the structure, the support arm, the support element, the basketball backboard and hoop assembly, a backboard support member, and the basketball backboard, wherein the shock sensor generates a signal indicative of a use of the apparatus,

wherein the computer processes information generated by the shock sensor, and further wherein the computer detects a period of non-use of the apparatus and automatically returns the basketball backboard and hoop assembly to the non-use position.

Claim 7. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 1, wherein

the support arm is moved in an opposite direction, and further wherein the basketball backboard and hoop assembly is longitudinally moved along a horizontal plane or along any angle within 45 degrees of or about a horizontal plane from the second position to a stored position inside the structure.

Claim 8. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the basketball backboard and hoop assembly is deployed for use outside the structure.

Claim 9. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising:

at least one mounting element for mounting the support element to the structure.

Claim 10. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the basketball backboard and hoop assembly is moved through a dedicated aperture.

Claim 11. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 1, wherein the basketball backboard and hoop assembly comprises a foldable backboard.

Claim 12. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, further

comprising:

an electric motor for at least one of automatically deploying the basketball backboard and hoop assembly to the in-use position or for automatically storing the basketball backboard and hoop assembly.

Claim 13. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising:

a mechanical device for deploying the backboard and hoop assembly to the in-use position and or for storing the backboard and hoop assembly.

Claim 14. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 1, wherein at least one of the apparatus, the basketball backboard and hoop assembly, the support arm, and the support element, is manufactured from at least one of metal, steel, wood, plastic, plastic composite material, metal alloy material, metal alloy composite material, and fiberglass.

Claim 15. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the basketball backboard and hoop assembly further comprises:

a backboard, wherein the backboard is an unfoldable

backboard.

Claim 16. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 1, further comprising:

an electric motor for automatically deploying the basketball backboard and hoop assembly to the in-use position.

Claim 17. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 1, further comprising:

an electric motor for automatically returning the basketball backboard and hoop assembly to a non-use position.

Claim 18. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 1, wherein the in-use position is outside the structure and a non-use position is inside the structure.

Claim 19. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 1, further comprising:

a mechanical device for at least one of deploying the basketball backboard and hoop assembly to the in-use position and returning the basketball backboard and hoop assembly to a non-use position.

Claim 20. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 1, further comprising:

at least one of an automatic timer and a sensor for sensing darkness, daylight, noise, motion in the vicinity of the structure in which the apparatus is mounted or to which the apparatus is mounted, rainfall, snowfall, and an environmental condition,

wherein the at least one of an automatic timer and a sensor for sensing darkness, daylight, noise, infrared heat from a player, an impact or impact motion upon the basketball backboard apparatus, a light beam break from a basketball, motion in the vicinity of the structure in which the apparatus is mounted or to which the apparatus is mounted, rainfall, snowfall, and an environmental condition, activates at least one of an electrical motor and a mechanical device to at least one of deploy the basketball backboard and hoop assembly to the in-use position and retract the basketball backboard and hoop assembly to a non-use position or to the position inside the structure.

Claim 21. (Previously Presented) A basketball backboard and hoop apparatus, comprising:

a basketball backboard and hoop assembly;

a support arm for supporting the basketball backboard and hoop assembly; and

a guiding device;

wherein the support arm is moved along the guiding device, and further wherein the basketball backboard and hoop assembly is moved or rotated at least one of through or along a horizontal plane or axis, through or along a vertical plane or axis, through or along any angle of rotation, through or along any angle of inclination, and any combination thereof, from a first position inside a structure to a second position outside the structure, and further wherein the basketball backboard and hoop assembly is moved to an in-use position.

Claim 22. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 21, wherein the basketball backboard and hoop assembly further comprises a backboard, and further wherein the apparatus further comprises:

a backboard support member, wherein the backboard support member deploys the backboard into an upright position.

Claim 23. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 21, wherein the basketball backboard and hoop assembly further comprises a backboard, and further wherein the apparatus further comprises:

a backboard support member, wherein the backboard support member unfolds the backboard to an in-use position or folds the backboard prior to storage.

Claim 24. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 21, wherein the basketball backboard and hoop assembly comprises a hoop capable of being rotated to an in-use position, wherein the hoop is at least one of rotated in a vertical direction to an in-use position subsequent to the basketball backboard and hoop assembly being moved to at least one of the second position and the in-use position and rotated in a horizontal direction to an in-use position subsequent to the basketball backboard and hoop assembly being moved to at least one of the second position and the in-use position.

Claim 25. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 21, further comprising:

an electric motor for automatically deploying the basketball backboard and hoop assembly to the in-use position or

for automatically returning the basketball backboard and hoop assembly to the non-use position.

Claim 26. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 25, further comprising:

a computer for controlling the electric motor; and

a shock sensor attached to at least one of the basketball backboard and hoop assembly and the basketball backboard, wherein the shock sensor generates a signal indicative of a use of the apparatus,

wherein the computer processes information generated by the shock sensor, and further wherein the computer detects a period of non-use of the apparatus and automatically returns the basketball backboard and hoop assembly to the non-use position.

Claim 27. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 21, wherein the support arm is moved along the guiding device in an opposite direction, and further wherein the basketball backboard and hoop assembly is longitudinally moved along a horizontal plane or along any angle within 45 degrees of or about a horizontal plane from the second position to a stored position inside the structure.

Claim 28. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 21, wherein the basketball backboard and hoop assembly is deployed for use outside the structure.

Claim 29. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 21, wherein the support structure further comprises:

at least one mounting element for mounting the guiding device inside the structure.

Claim 30. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 21, wherein the basketball-backboard and hoop assembly is moved through a dedicated aperture.

Claim 31. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 21, wherein the basketball backboard and hoop assembly comprises a foldable backboard.

Claim 32. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 21, further comprising:

an electric motor for at least one of automatically deploying the basketball backboard and hoop assembly to the in-use position or for automatically storing the basketball

backboard and hoop assembly.

Claim 33. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of
Claim 21, further comprising:

a mechanical device for deploying the backboard and
hoop assembly to the in-use position and or for storing the
backboard and hoop assembly.

Claim 34. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of
Claim 21, wherein at least one of the apparatus, the basketball
backboard and hoop assembly, and the support structure, is
manufactured from at least one of metal, steel, wood, plastic,
plastic composite material, metal alloy material, metal alloy
composite material, and fiberglass.

Claim 35. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of
Claim 21, wherein the basketball backboard and hoop assembly
further comprises:

a backboard; wherein the backboard is an unfoldable
backboard.

Claim 36. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of
Claim 21, further comprising:

an electric motor for automatically deploying the basketball backboard and hoop assembly to the in-use position.

Claim 37. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 36, further comprising:

a computer for controlling the operation of the electric motor.

Claim 38. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 21, further comprising:

an electric motor for automatically returning the basketball backboard and hoop assembly to a non-use position.

Claim 39. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 38, further comprising:

a computer for controlling the operation of the electric motor.

Claim 40. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 21, wherein the in-use position is outside the structure and a non-use position is inside the structure.

Claim 41. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of
Claim 21, further comprising:

a mechanical device for deploying the basketball
backboard and hoop assembly to the in-use position.

Claim 42. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of
claim 41, further comprising:

a computer for controlling the operation of the
mechanical device.

Claim 43. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of
Claim 21, further comprising:

a mechanical device for returning the basketball
backboard and hoop assembly to a non-use position.

Claim 44. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of
claim 43, further comprising:

a computer for controlling the operation of the
mechanical device.

Claim 45. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 21, wherein the first position is a stored position.

Claim 46. (New) The apparatus of Claim 1, further comprising:

at least one of a garage door opener motor, an actuation device, and a mechanism, wherein the at least one of a garage door opener motor, an actuation device, and a mechanism, is used in at least one of deploying and storing the basketball backboard and hoop assembly, and further wherein the at least one of a garage door opener motor, an actuation device, and a mechanism, is also capable of being used in at least one of opening and closing a garage door.

Claim 47. (New) The apparatus of Claim 21, further comprising:

at least one of a garage door opener motor, an actuation device, and a mechanism, wherein the at least one of a garage door opener motor, an actuation device, and a mechanism, is used in at least one of deploying and storing the basketball backboard and hoop assembly, and further wherein the at least one of a garage door opener motor, an actuation device, and a

mechanism, is also capable of being used in at least one of opening and closing a garage door.